Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 04428 230850Z ACTION HA-05

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 EA-10 EUR-12 L-03 H-01 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 INR-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 /094 W

R 230848Z MAR 78 FM USMISSION GENEVA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7569 INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: SHUM

SUBJECT: HUMAN RIGHTS IN CAMBODIA

- 1. MISSION GENEVA HAS MADE INQUIRIES REGARDING IMPLEMENTATION OF DECISION ON CAMBODIA ADOPTED DURING 34TH SESSION OF HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION.
- 2. AS INTERPRETED BY AMCIT CICIEL GROSS (WHO WILL PROBABLY BE IN CHARGE OF THE PROJECT), LANGUAGE IN DECISION IS SO BROAD THAT INFORMATION REGARDING HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN CAMBODIA CAN BE SECURED FROM VARIETY OF SOURCES WORLDWIDE, I.E., GOVERNMENTS, NEWS MEDIA, INDIVIDUALS.
- 3. MISSION GENEVA AGREES WITH GROSS INTERPRETATION AND URGES DEPARTMENT TO MAKE AVAILABLE TO THE HRD ANY AVAILABLE INFORMATION IT HAS ON SUBJECT FOR INCLUSION IN SYG'S REPORT TO THE COMMISSION AT ITS 35TH SESSION. IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT DEPARTMENT (D/HA) HAS EXTENSIVE INFORMATION ON CAMBODIA AND MADE IT AVAILABLE TO UK EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON IN PREPARATION FOR UK'S INTRODUCTION OF THIS ITEM TO THE 34TH HRC. PARTICULARLY, MISSION BELIEVES LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 GENEVA 04428 230850Z

THAT TESTIMONY OF INDIVIDUAL REFUGEES WOULD GIVE DRAMATIC AND PERSONAL IMPACT TO THE EVENTS IN CAMBODIA WHICH SHOULD COMPEL THE HRC ATTENTION.

4. WHILE OUR INTERPRETATION OF THE DECISION IS THAT SUCH INFORMATION COULD BE GIVEN BY GOVERNMENTS DIRECTLY TO THE HR DIVISION, DEPARTMENT (IF THERE IS CONCURRENCE ABOUT

PROVIDING INFORMATION) MAY WISH TO CONSIDER PROVIDING INFORMATION TO NGO GROUPS WHO COULD IN TURN PASS IT TO THE HRD.

5. IN SHORT, WE STRONGLY BELIEVE THAT WE MUST BEGIN NOW TO HELP DOCUMENT THE CASE AGAINST CAMBODIA BY GATHERING EVIDENCE OF SUCH FORCE AND CHARACTER THAT THE THIRTY-FIFTH SESSION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION WILL NOT BE ABLE TO IGNORE OR REFUTE WHAT HAS BEEN ASSEMBLED. KEEPING IN MIND THAT ALL THIS MATERIAL WILL HAVE TO BE SIFTED BY THE SUB-COMMISSION MEETING IN LATE AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER, THIS PROCESS WILL HAVE TO BE ORGANIZED AND BEGUN IMMEDIATELY. WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING AN OVERALL PROGRAM OF ACTION FROM THE DEPARTMENT AIMED AT ACHIEVING THIS SO THAT WE CAN MORE EFFECTIVELY COORDINATE THE ROLE THAT WE HOPE TO PLAY.VANDEN HEUVEL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 jan 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, ALLEGATIONS, INVESTIGATIONS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 23 mar 1978 Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014 Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978GENEVA04428
Document Source: CORE

Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Expiration: Film Number: D780128-1057 Format: TEL

From: GENEVA Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780333/aaaabbvi.tel

Line Count: 78 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 293b1fbf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION HA

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a

Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Reference: n/a Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags:

Review Date: 05 may 2005 Review Event: Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:**

Review Release Date: N/A Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 3229084 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: HUMAN RIGHTS IN CAMBODIA

TAGS: SHUM, CB To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/293b1fbf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014